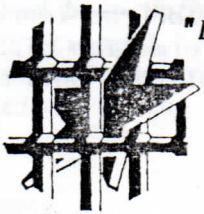
FREE GIORGOS BALAFAS



"DEMON OF THE PRINTSHOP"
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ATHENS-GREECE

On December 2 1992,the "most dangerous and wanted(for seven years now) greek terrorist",Giorgos Balafas was arrested in Athens,at the house of his friend Andreas Kiriakopoulos . Balafas and his (female) friend Vasiliki Mihou visited Andreas at the night of his name day.

Balafas is accused of founding and being a member of **"ANTI-STATE STRUGGLE",an anarchist guerilla group which:**

-Executed the state prosecutor Theofanopoulos (1-4-1985)

-Robbed the "Sklavenitis Super Market"(during the robbery,a cop was executed) (16-5-85)

-Executed 3 cops at "Gizi´s Battle".During this fight Christos Tsutsuvis also died.Tsutsuvis has been an armed militant more than 15 years.He started as a member of PAK,a sosialist resistance group that fought against the military dictatorship(1967-1974).When the "democracy" was restored he became a member of "Revolutionary Peorle´s Struggle".**(E.L.A.)**

Balafas has been sought by the police since the "Gizi´s Battle". He went underground and during all these years,issuing several press releases,he denied that he is a member of "A-S.S.".The only "evidence" connecting him and "A-S.S." are:

-That he was a cousin and friend of Tsutsuvis

-A supposed fingerprint of his,discovered on a...pack of cookies at the"safehouse" of Kalama str.,where Tsutsuvis was keeping guns,explosives,typewriters,tools etc

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"Three months ago,along with my arrest,the chapter of the "wanted terrorist" Giorgos Balafas closed and the chapter of been a hostage started.The following months,the joudicial authorities after completing their search,they will send me to the court(...)

The judicial authorities adopt the recommendations of the persecution authorities and keep in jail two people,whose "mistake" was the fact that they were related with me.Kiriakoroulos,ignoring my real identity,was"wrong" to accept my visit the night of his name day.Mihou,on the other hand,is held because she didn´t become a"collaborator" and didn´t broke up our relationship,which existed many years before i was portrayed as a "wanted terrorist".It´s a sample of state´s cynism,barbarism and moral poverty.In order for the impressions to be created and for the offend of the "formation of a gang" to be stabilized.In order for the misery of the "anti terrorist law" to be established.

During the three months that i am here,isolated from my co-prisoner Kiriakopoulos and Mihou -our applies for visits between Vasiliki and me had been rejected- i found the time to study the documents of the cases:Theofanopoulos assasination, Gizi´s battle,robbery at Sklaveniti´s Super market,"gun storage rooms" at Kalama str. and Mavrikiou str.The accusations against me don´t stand on any evidence because there isn´t possible for any to exist.They stand on reports about my relations -for example my family relation with Christos Tsutsuvis- relation which i have no reason to hide (...)

...one of the reasons which led me not to appear "spontaneusly" to the pursuit authorities in 1985,was the ideology i had and which i keep -with some reservation-, to deny to give away to the state and its institutions the right to decide about my life and my freedom. This choise of mine -that´s why the reservation-deprived my capability to defent effectively and more convinsingly myself,my actions,my way and my values.

I believe that this case doesn´t concern only the 3 of us and those who have express their support in public.Not only even those who at several times,in order to defent their dignity,they were forced to turn to any kind of illegality.I think that it also certainly concerns the people of the left ("offial" and "extra parliamentary"),as well as the peorle of the antiauthoritarian movement(...)

Of course i am not a "usual citizen" who just happened to be presented by the pursuit authorities as a "terrorist".I participate in the movement since 1975.I didn´t became known to the groups of the extra-parliamentary left and the antiauthoritarian-autonomes when i was portrayed as a "terrorist".I participated to solidarity demonstrations and mobilizations for people who had been unfairly persecuted,supported strikes and school occupations.I have take part to riots of the antiauthoritarian movement against the police.I have been dragged hundrents of times to the police stations for identification

With the above practices,maybe a part of the people of the left doesn´t agree.They might not even agree with my own attitude through the last 8 years.However,never existed unanimity of views and unity of practice in any movement.The focal point in this case is not only which values,ideals,and moral characteristics a pursuited person should possess in order to be supported but also which characteristics should one possess in order to support the pursuited person.Because solidarity is not a "salvage" only to the one who "collects" it,but equally to the one who "gives" it.Unfortunatelly today,if the support to the"terrorist" is minimized,the same way it is minimized when it concerns the striker,the unemployted,the squatter,the refugee,the foreigner(...)

The immediate release of Vasilki Mihou and Andreas Kiriakopoulos is a self-evident apply,which doesn´t excuse any wasted time and any hesitation on the part of the authorities and mostly on the part of the people who are interested for the preservation of the elementary human rights.

Concerning myself, i hope and i´m equally interested for an innocence verdict but also for the expression of a movement of social and political solidarity.Because on an innonence verdict my personal freedom depends,but on the expression of the solidarity movement,the case of freedom depends,which in all the phases of my conscious life leads me.

"If the only reason for one to be worth to be born is to live free; and as soon as he is born his freedom is mortgaged,then what other solution is left than REVOLUTION."
(Yannis Skaribas)

JUDIASARY PRISONS OF KORIDALLOS
MARCH '93
GIORGOS BALAFAS